

Indian Education for All – Oyate Librarian's Institute

June 11 – 14, 2007

Billings Hotel & Convention Center

The Office of Public Instruction recognizes that in the implementation of Indian Education for All, school librarians play an important role in ensuring that all Montana students receive accurate and authentic information about American Indians through the selection of books and other materials, as well as through the sharing of information with other school staff and students.

Oyate is a Native organization working to see that American Indian lives and histories are portrayed honestly and that all children learn the truth about history. Oyate trainers will guide librarians through the murky world of “children’s books about Indians.” Using role-plays, improvisations, skits, readings, rewriting, group discussions and group work, Native and non-Native participants together learn how to evaluate children’s material for honest portrayals of Indian peoples, and how to select and where to find authentic and respectful materials. Participants examine their own values and come to a greater understanding of how their behaviors influence children whose worldviews may be different from their own. Topics include: perspectives and values, blatant and subtle stereotypes, anthropology, traditional storytelling, humor, evaluation criteria, and a discussion of what it takes to develop honest curricula. Trainers Beverly Slapin and Judy Dow are the authors of *Through Indian Eyes: The Native Experience in Books for Children*. Visit <http://www.oyate.org/> for more information about the organization.

There’s no registration fee but enrollment is capped at 50, so sign up soon! The Institute will begin at 8 a.m. on June 11 and conclude by 3 p.m. on June 14. School librarians are given registration preference. A copy of *How to Teach About American Indians – A Guide for the School Library Media Specialist* will be purchased for each participant who registers. Renewal units will also be provided. Attendees/districts will be required to cover their own travel and lodging but meals will be provided. A block of rooms has been reserved at the Billings Hotel & Convention Center (800-537-7286) under “The Office of Public Instruction.”

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Registration Form

School/District: _____

Name: _____ Position: _____

Contact phone number/email: _____

Contact address: _____

Please return this form to Mandy Smoker Broaddus, OPI, PO Box 202501, Helena, MT 59620-2501 or email Mandy at: mbroaddus@mt.gov. With this registration, please inform us if you require any special accommodations.